

Marple Urban District Council

**ANNUAL
REPORTS**

— OF —

HARRY BURTON

M.D., Durham; M.R.C.S., Eng.; L.S.A., Lond.; L.R.C.P.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

— AND —

D. J. DIVER,

SURVEYOR & INSPECTOR

For the Year 1919



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MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer's Report

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SIR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting to your notice my Twenty Second Annual Report on the health of your district.

The area of your district is 3,053 acres, urban and rural.

The district of Marple, including High Lane and Strines, is hilly, being built on a slope, with west and south-west aspect. Its height above sea level varies from 450 to 633 feet. It is well drained, and boasted some beautiful woods and trees, until owing to war requirements the best trees were cut down, quite spoiling the place from an artistic point of view. The sub-soil is clay (with occasional faults of sand and gravel), which makes it cold and humid. However, the natural drainage through the sloping character of the country counteracts the dampness, and renders it fairly dry and healthy.

Marple may truly be termed a Residential District, contiguous to Manchester, peopled, as it chiefly is, by business men who live here in fairly large houses.

The remainder of the village consists of cottages tenanted by the workers in the three mills and a few small works. The chief industry is cotton spinning and manufacturing.

The cottages are mostly of a very good type, with plenty of room and ventilation, but the want of all kinds of property is most acutely felt, and we are hoping before long that some medium-sized property will be erected.

The population at the last census was 6,250, calculated by the Registrar General; for 1919 it is 6,647 for Birth Rate and 6,381 for Death Rate.

The sewerage and drainage is in a satisfactory state.

The disposal of excrement is done by three methods—water carriage, pails, and middens. Except in the outlying districts the sewage is now practically all water borne.

There are 958 water closets and 309 slop water closets.

There are only 20 cesspools in the district. The pails and middens are emptied at night-time, but in isolated parts of the district some congestion must unavoidably occur, and will do so until we have universal drainage. The tins and pails are collected weekly. There are 1132 ashbins now, compared with 90 nine years ago.

Marple obtains its water supply from the Stockport Corporation, through Lyme and Kinder. The water is good in quality, and the analysis shows it to be pure.

MILK SUPPLY.

The supply of milk is fair, but the price is still high, owing to the inflated prices of cattle foods.

The dairies and cowsheds are kept in a sanitary condition, and limewashed occasionally.

No cases of unsound food or meat were reported during the year.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

There were only 7 cases of Infectious Diseases reported: Scarlet Fever 3 cases, Diphtheria 2 cases, Typhoid Fever 1 case, Puerperal Fever 1 case. All the Scarlet Fever cases were kept at home and isolated, with very satisfactory results. The Typhoid and Diphtheria cases were sent to Hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were only 3 deaths notified in 1919.

The Schools have been well looked after as to fumigation, cleansing, etc.

The Infantile Death Rate is 64.7—very satisfactory.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1919 and previous Years.
MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT.

YEAR	For Death Rate. Population Estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		DEATHS TRANSFERABLE.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un-corrected No.	Nett.		Number	Rate	Of Non-Resident Registered in the District.	Of Residents not Registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate					Number.	Rate per 1000 nett Births.		
1910	5800	124	124	21.3	66	11.3	...	6	5	40.3	72	21.4
1911	6100	115	117	19.1	86	14.2	...	6	20	162.3	92	15.08
1912	6300	104	105	16.6	73	11.58	...	6	5	48.8	79	12.35
1913	6500	90	91	40.0	63	9.06	...	4	12	133.3	67	10.3
1914	6600	114	115	17.4	82	12.4	...	10	9	78.9	82	12.4
1915	6650	96	97	14.4	76	11.14	...	10	12	125.0	86	12.9
1916	6650	107	107	16.9	56	8.4	...	8	4	37.3	64	9.6
1917	6080	77	80	11.8	62	11.9	...	12	5	62.5	75	12.3
1918	6027	86	86	12.7	72	11.9	...	9	11	127.0	81	13.04
1919	6381	93]	93	14.0	64	10.0	...	14	6	64.7	78	12.2

TABLE III.

Deaths registered during the Calendar Year 1919, classified by age and cause.
MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of Death		Net Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.		
		All Ages	Females	Males
All Causes —Certified	...	78	44	34
" Uncertified	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	6	5	1
Erysipelas	...	1	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	2	1	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	1	...	1
Cancer, etc.	...	7	6	1
Rheumatic Fever	...	1	...	1
Organic Heart Disease	...	22	13	9
Bronchitis	...	9	7	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	4	3	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	2	...	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	1	...	1
Congenital Debility, etc.	...	1	...	1
Violence, apart from Suicide	...	4	2	2
Suicide	...	1	1	...
All other causes	...	16	6	10
Totals	...	78	44	34

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
All causes—Certified	1	1	...	...	1	...	1	2	6
Broncho Pneumonia	1	...	...	1	2
Congenital Debility	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Laryngitis...	1	...	1
Convulsions	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea	1	...	...	1	1
Totals	1	1	...	...	1	...	1	2	6

We have the following Adoptive Acts in force:—

Infectious Diseases Notification Act.
Public Health Amendment Act, 1909.
Tuberculosis Act, 1912.

And the following Bye-Laws:

New Streets and Buildings, Common Lodging-Houses,
Slaughter-Houses, Cleansing and Scavenging, Offensive
Trades, Hackney Carriages.

The following nuisances have been dealt with, viz.:—

Defective Drains	29
„ Ashpits	1
Privies converted into Water Closets	12
Defects in Dairies and Cowsheds	8
„ in Bakehouses	1
Structural Defects	5
Dirty Conditions	3
Accumulations of Refuse	3
Defects in Slaughter-houses	5
<hr/>	
Nuisances abated	67
„ unabated	56
<hr/>	
Total	123

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

There are 11 Factories and 33 Workshops in the district.

These have all been inspected periodically, and all defects rectified. All the buildings are in a satisfactory state. The ventilation is good, and they are clean and limewashed. The sanitary arrangements are good.

There are 10 Bakehouses in the district. Only one slight defect was found. They are whitewashed and clean.

The Slaughter-houses, five in number, have been frequently inspected. They are all well paved, drained, and whitewashed.

No cases of overcrowding came to our notice, and there is no illegal employment of girls.

Eleven canal boats were examined, with no defects.

METEOROLOGICAL.

RAINFALL.

January	No. of inches	3·58	rain fell on	19	days.
February	„ „	1·08	„ „	7	„
March	„ „	5·12	„ „	19	„
April	„ „	1·87	„ „	16	„
May	„ „	1·88	„ „	9	„
June	„ „	2·26	„ „	16	„
July	„ „	2·26	„ „	11	„
August	„ „	3·45	„ „	18	„
September	„ „	1·68	„ „	10	„
October	„ „	2·56	„ „	10	„
November	„ „	2·39	„ „	21	„
December	„ „	5·55	„ „	23	„
Total		33·77		179	

Average for the last twenty years: 33·48 inches.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. Veterinary inspection of cattle.

2. Improvement in condition of streets. Some of the roads, especially those in the main thoroughfares, require re-paving badly. The length from Market Street to Possett Bridge deserves special mention.

I think you will consider this Report very satisfactory.

The low Infantile Death Rate, 64·7, against 127 last year.

The low Death Rate, 10, without the outward transfers, and the slightly higher Birth Rate, are all steps in the right direction.

The very small number of Zymotic Diseases is congratulatory.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HARRY BURTON,

M.D. (Durh.), M.R.C.S. (Eng).

MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Summary of Sanitary Work during 1919

I. ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Have any of the undernamed Acts been adopted by your Council during 1919?

1. Infectious Diseases Prevention Act.—No.
2. Notification of Births Act.
3. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (State Sections in force).—15 to 25, 27 to 28, 43 to 67, 69 to 77, 92 to 95 inclusive.
4. Other Adoptive Acts.

II. BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

State subject matter of any new Bye-Laws or Regulations brought into force during 1919. A copy of any new Bye-Laws or Regulations would be acceptable.

III. MILK SUPPLY.

1. Number of Registered Premises at close of 1919:—

			Number inspected during 1919.
(a) Dairies .....	—	.....	—
(b) Cowsheds	57	.....	57
(c) Milkshops .....	—	.....	—

2. Number of Notices served for non-compliance with Regulations.
3. Number of Legal Actions taken for non-compliance with Notices, &c.

IV.—FOOD INSPECTION.

1. Is this systematically carried out in your District?—Yes.
2. Number of Slaughter-houses in your District—

(a) Public	Nil
(b) Private	5
3. Number of inspections made of Slaughter-houses during 1919—

(a) Public	Nil
(b) Private	15

4. Are systematic inspections made of premises other than Slaughter-houses where food is produced or sold? If so, please state generally nature of premises so inspected.—Fish Shops, Fried Fish Shops, and Cooked Food Shops.

V. WATER SUPPLY.

1. Have any extensions been carried out during 1919 If so, please append brief note.—Portion of water main in Windlehurst Road increased in size from 3in. diameter to 6in. diameter.
2. Number of Samples analysed during 1919.
3. Are any, and, if so, what parts of your district still without a proper supply?—Dooley Lane.

VI. POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

In your opinion, are any Rivers or Streams in your district polluted, or likely to be polluted at times, by any of the following?

- (a) Public Sewage Disposal Works.—No.
- (b) Private Sewage Disposal Works.—No.
- (c) Solid matter (accumulations of cinders, refuse, sludge, &c.).—No.
- (d) House Drainage.—No; except in one or two cases.
- (e) Manufacturing waste or effluents.—No.

VII. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

1. Specify any new works of sewerage carried out during 1919.—Nil.
2. Are any, and, if so, what parts of your district still without a proper system of sewers?—Strines village.
3. By what system is sewage disposed of?—Chiefly water-borne.
4. Have there been any complaints to your knowledge during 1919 as to the disposal works?—None.
5. Have any alterations or extensions taken place to your knowledge in the disposal works during 1919?—No.

VIII. SCAVENGING.

1. By whom is this carried out?—Council, by direct employment.
2. Approximate number of the following in your district:—

		How frequently scavenged.
(a) Midden-privies	419	As occasion demands, from Six Weeks to Two Months.
(b) Dry Ashpits	170	
(c) Pail Closets	44	Weekly.
(d) Dustbins	1132	Weekly.
(e) Cesspools	20	
3. Is the present system, in your opinion, inadequate in any respect?—The owners of Privies are now being pressed to provide Water Closets.

IX. HOUSING.

1. Number of new houses built during 1919.—None.
2. Number of dwelling-houses inspected under S. 17, Act of 1909.—None.
3. Number of such houses considered unfit for habitation.
4. Number of representations made to Local Authority.—Nil.
5. Number of closing orders made by Local Authority.—Nil.
6. Number of houses where defects remedied *without* closing orders being made.—Nil.
7. Number of houses where defects remedied *after* closing orders made.—Nil.
8. Estimated or ascertained number of houses within limits of rent in S. 14 of Act of 1909.—1,124.
9. Number of such houses in respect of which notice was served during 1912.—Nil.
10. Number of such houses closed after notice.—Nil.
11. Number of such houses where Local Authority has executed necessary repairs, &c.—Nil.
12. Approximate number of back-to-back houses in district.—42.
13. Approximate number of cellar dwellings in district.—None.

X. PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

Kindly state action taken during 1919 under following heads :—

1. Sanitary inspection of patients' houses.—Yes.
2. Disinfection of ditto.—Always after removal or death.
3. Distribution of circulars containing advice.
4. Action to prevent spitting.
5. Provision of Shelters.
6. Supply of disinfectant.—Yes, if required.
7. Supply of sputum flasks, paper handkerchiefs, &c.
8. Visitation by Nurses or Health Visitors.—Yes.

(Signed) **HY BURTON.**

March 31st, 1919,



Tabular Statement of Inspector of Nuisances for the Year ended December 31st, 1919.

Number and Nature of Nuisances abated.	Number	No. of Notices served.		Result of Service of Notices.		
		Statutory.	Informal.	Notices complied with.	Remaining in hand.	
					Instituted.	Pending.
1. Dwelling-houses (general inspections)	123	...	...	...	...	...
2. Cellar Dwellings .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Back-to-Back Houses .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c. ....	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Courts, Yards, Passages. ....	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets (Converted)....	12	40	...	...	...	28
7. Cesspools .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. House Drainage	29	...	29	...	...	...
9. Ditches, Watercourses, &c. ....	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Offensive Accumulations	3	...	3	...	...	...
11. The Keeping of Animals (P.H.A., 1875, S. 91 (3))....	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Offensive Trades .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. (a) Slaughterhouses (Public) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Other Places where Food is produced or sold.	5	...	5	...	...	...
14. Piggeries .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. (a) Dairies .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Cowsheds	8	...	8	...	...	...
(c) Milkshops .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. (a) Factories .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Workshops .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Workplaces .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
(d) Outworkers' Premises .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Bakehouses (Overground)	1	...	1	...	...	...
" (Underground) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Common Lodging-houses	3	...	3	...	...	...
19. Dirty Conditions .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Smoke Observations .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. Canal Boats .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Infectious Disease Inquiries and Revisits .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Miscellaneous	5	...	5	...	...	...
Totals.....	189	40	54	...	...	28

MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Surveyor and Inspector's Report.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you my Annual Report for the year ending December, 1919.

From time to time I have inspected various premises for the purpose of ascertaining the existence of nuisances, with the result that 122 premises have been inspected, 123 defects discovered, 67 of which have been remedied, leaving 56 in hand.

The number of informal notices issued was 123, and the number of statutory notices served 40.

The nuisances dealt with are as follows:—

Defective Drains	29
Defective Ashbins	1
Privies converted into Water Closets	12
Defects in Dairies and Cowsheds	8
Defects in Bakehouses	1
Structural Defects	5
Dirty Conditions	3
Accumulation of Refuse	3
Defects in Slaughter-houses	5
<hr/>	
Nuisances abated	67
„ unabated	56
<hr/>	
Total	123

WATER CLOSETS, PRIVIES, ETC.

The number of Water Closets and other conveniences in the District are as follows:—

Water Closets	958
Slop Water Closets	309
Privy Middens	419
Pail Closets	44
Dry Ashpits	170
Ashbins	1132
Cesspools	20

HOUSING.

The number of houses in the district is 1,691.

The number of working-class houses in the district is 1,392.

The housing scheme, which consists of the provision of 101 houses on Brindley's Farm, has made considerable progress. The land has been purchased, the Council obtaining vacant possession on March 25th. The lay-out plan, together with plans and estimates for streets and sewers, have been prepared in the Surveyor's department, and have received the official approval of the Housing Commissioner. The house plans are now being prepared.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

This work is carried out by direct employment of labour. The Privies and Ashpits are emptied at regular periods varying from two weeks to twelve weeks, the refuse being taken to convenient tips in the rural parts of the district. The Ashbins are emptied weekly.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During the year 7 cases of Infectious Disease, other than Measles, have been notified, consisting of 3 cases of Scarlet Fever, 2 cases of Diphtheria, and 1 case of Typhoid. The Scarlet Fever cases were nursed at home, the other cases being sent to the Isolation Hospital.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The Dairies and Cowsheds in the district have been inspected from time to time, eight defects being discovered, all of which have been remedied.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 10 Bakehouses in the district. These have been frequently inspected, one defect only being discovered.

SEWERS.

The Sewers have been periodically examined, and appear to be in good condition. No new Sewers have been laid during the year.

CANAL BOATS.

The inspection of Canal Boats has been attended to. Eleven Boats have been examined; no defects were discovered.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Sewage Disposal Works have been maintained up to the usual standard. The Rivers Board Inspectors have taken several final effluent samples, which have been satisfactory.

RECREATION GROUNDS.

The playing area of these grounds, which has been cultivated during the war, is now to be sown with grass seed, and prepared for playing purposes the allotment holders being provided with plots on Hibbert Lane.

The Shelters and Swings need painting.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supply is obtained from the Stockport Corporation in bulk, and is distributed through mains, the property of the Council. The supply has been ample and of good quality.

WATER MAINS.

Many of the water mains have now been in use for upwards of 35 years, and are now too small to carry the required quantity of water, consequently portions of the district are insufficiently supplied. Some improvement has been effected during the past year by substituting a 6in. diameter main for 3in. main on the Windlehurst Road. The real remedy would be to extend this 6in. diameter main to Market Street through Hibbert Lane.

MAIN ROADS.

The main roads have had considerable attention during the year, the re-surfaced areas being as follows:—

Sett Paving	1,426 yards sup.
Tarmacadam	4,211 „ „
Ordinary Macadam	893 „ „
	<hr/>
Total	6,530

The area re-surfaced is the largest area dealt with during the past 13 years. The area tar sprayed was 20,000 yards super.

DISTRICT ROADS.

The district roads are in fair condition, the area re-surfaced during the year being 4,199 yards super., made up as follows: 3,614 yards of ordinary macadam and 585 yards sup. of tarmacadam.

DOOLEY LANE.

In addition to the ordinary repair of district roads, Dooley Lane has been reconstructed. This work consists of constructing new foundations to the length between the Dan Bank Bridge and Sewage Works, and re-surfacing with ordinary macadam, and surfacing the length between the Hare and Hounds and Otterspool Bridge with tarmacadam. The work is complete with the exception of laying the ordinary macadam between the Dan Bank Bridge and the Sewage Works. The estimated cost was £1,328, towards which cost the Road Board has made a grant of £1.150.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. J. DIVER,

SURVEYOR AND INSPECTOR.

February 1920.

